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Cuban Sierra Battles

The U. S. press is pulling the wool over its eyes in reporting Cuba. Almost daily the A.P. and U.P.I. clutter up newspapers with lurid accounts of imaginary battles in Cuba's many sierras, the most popular lately being that of the Escambray.

We are told one day that up to 3,000 rebels are in the mountains. A few days later there are only 1,000, then back up to 1,500, then down to 800. Has it ever occurred to anyone a bit odd that these thousands have no leader, no radio, no contact with the press? When Castro was in the mountains he was a world figure. Newsmen beat a path to his headquarters, with still and television cameras ready. Why is there no similar coverage of the reported counter-revolution?

The answer is that it is largely fictional. There are a few Batista cutthroats and CIA adventures-for-pay in the sierras, but reporters can't find them because they are hiding out waiting for the Marines to rescue them. Meanwhile Castro, well armed just in case, proceeds with the only genuine social and economic revolution of our time that is giving Cuba a better life already and at the same time providing a pattern for the future of all Latin America.

Prospect, Ky.

HENRY WALLACE

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